

Title: BALANCE

Author:

PRINCIPLES OF BALANCE

I write this in great
haste, for I can already
hear the forces of Order
breaching the keep walls.
I know not how this
missive will survive to
reach the outside lands,
or for that matter,
future generations. Mine
only hope is that this
speedily-drafted work will
offer record of our
hallowed philosophy. For
our culture to have any
chance of enduring the
ages, someone, somewhere
must find this. Please,
reader, I beseech thee,
spread the word of our
peoples.

Balance -- The harmony
between the Principles of
Order and Chaos -- is
the one pure axiom we
hold true. All three
Principles are symbolized
in our hieroglyphs: The
Great Earth Serpent,
keeper of Balance, lies on
a vertical plane, around
which the two opposing
serpents of Chaos and
Order wrap themselves.
Chaos and Order each
embrace three Forces.
These six Forces, when
combined, form the three
Principles of Balance. The
Forces of Chaos are
Tolerance, Enthusiasm, and
Emotion; the Forces of
Order are Ethicality,
Discipline, and Logic.

CHAOS -- Tolerance is that which encourages the acceptance of all things. Enthusiasm is the energy that allows one to perform great tasks. Emotion is the ability to perceive those feelings that come from the heart, as opposed to coming from the mind.

ORDER -- Ethicality is the belief that there is great value in abiding by rules of conduct.

Discipline is the drive to complete a task and avoid the distractions that will prevent its completion.

Logic permits clear, reasoned thought, free from any instinctual biases.

BALANCE -- From the marriage between two Forces, one each from Chaos and Order, come the Principles. Tolerance and Ethicality combine to form Harmony, the ability to be at peace with the self, the individual, and the world. From the union of Enthusiasm and Discipline springs Dedication, that which permits one to surmount obstacles and lead others. Finally, Emotion tempered by Logic results in Rationality, the ability to comprehend life and understand the world around us.

The Forces of Chaos and Order must ever remain in Balance, for imbalance leads to disaster. Witness the war-torn state of our world today! As thou canst surely see, my world hath been torn asunder by disregard for Balance -- our dearest axiom! If thou dost thrive in a time less violent, I

can do no more than
plead with thee to help
restore Balance to the
Serpent Isle! I must end
this brief explication here,
for I can hear mine
attackers pounding upon
the oaken door
downstairs. I wish thee
and thy world better
fortune than mine own.

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- Ssithnos, the Great
Hierophant